

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 228517

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SSP:ATHOMS:EJQ

APPROVED BY PM:JKAHAN

ACDA:THIRSCHFELD (DRAFT)

DOD/ISA:JROWE (DRAFT)

JCS:THALE (DRAFT)

NSC:JMATHEWS (DRAFT)

EUR/SOV:GLMATTHEWS (DRAFT)

EUR/RPM:LFUERTH (DRAFT)

S/MS:MJOYCE (DRAFT)

S/S: JETHYDEN

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O 082307Z SEP 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 228517

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, PCAT, UR, US

SUBJECT: CAT: RESUMPTION OF DIALOGUE WITH SOVIETS

1. IN THE FINAL PLENARY SESSION AT THE LAST CAT ROUND (JULY 18-28 IN HELSINKI), THE U.S. AND SOVIET SIDES AGREED THAT EXCHANGES THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS IN ADVANCE OF THE NEXT ROUND COULD SPEED PROGRESS THERE. THE APPROACH TO SOVIET HEAD OF DELEGATION MENDELEVICH OUTLINED BELOW IS INTENDED TO BEGIN THIS EXCHANGE BY SEEKING SOVIET REACTIONS TO THE PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION TABLED BY THE U.S. AT THE LAST ROUND.

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2. EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH MENDELEVICH SOONEST ON THIS MATTER USING THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

--AT THE LAST CAT ROUND THE TWO SIDES AGREED THAT DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES BEFORE THE DECEMBER ROUND COULD HELP MAKE THE DECEMBER TALKS MORE PRODUCTIVE.

--AS A FIRST STEP IN THIS PROCESS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING SOVIET REACTIONS TO THE DRAFT PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION TABLED BY THE U.S. SIDE AT THE LAST ROUND, PARTICULARLY REACTIONS TO THE MILITARY/TECHNICAL CRITERIA AND THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM DESCRIBED IN THE DRAFT PROGRAM.

--ON THE MILITARY/TECHNICAL CRITERIA, WE ARE INTERESTED IN ANY MODIFICATIONS OR ADDITIONS WHICH THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SOVIET VIEWS ON WEAPONS THAT MIGHT BE REGULATED UNDER EACH MILITARY/TECHNICAL CRITERION.

--ON THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM, WE ARE INTERESTED IN SOVIET VIEWS ON ITS FORM AND FUNCTIONS, IN PARTICULAR ITS ROLE IN IMPLEMENTING AGREED CRITERIA FOR RESTRAINT.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM MENDELEVICH THAT SECRETARY VANCE MAY RAISE CAT WITH GROMYKO WHEN THEY MEET IN SEPTEMBER WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAILS OF SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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